

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are currently pending. Claims 27 and 28 are newly added.

1. The specification was objected to based on the labeling of FIG. 4. Applicants have amended paragraph [0030] to correct this clerical error. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

2. Claims 1 and 13 were objected to for reciting a computer-implemented method. The PTO appears to assert that the language “computer implemented method” infers that the method is implemented solely by a computer by a computer readable media. However, the claims nowhere recite a computer readable media. Instead, it appears that the PTO has misunderstood the term “media broadcast” which refers to broadcasts via television, radio, and other broadcast media. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101 and the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraph, among others. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 1 and 13.

3. Claims 1, 2-6, 10, 12-14 and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lappington et al. (US Patent 5,734,413; hereinafter “Lappington”). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a computer-implemented method for providing an event related game. The method includes receiving event data associated with a media broadcast at a computer, generating a printable game set, and providing the printable game set in an electronic format configured for printing by a user. The printable game set includes at least one game card and a set of trade tickets. The at least one game card includes a list of game events associated with the media broadcast. Each trade ticket of the set of trade tickets identifies a game event.

Claim 13 is directed to a computer-implemented method of providing interactive entertainment associated with a broadcast sports game. The method includes receiving event data associated with the broadcast sports game at a computer, generating a game set, and providing the game set in an electronic format configured for printing by a user. The game set

includes a plurality of game cards and a plurality of trade tickets. Each game card of the plurality of game cards lists a unique set of game events associated with the broadcast sports game. Each trade ticket of the plurality of trade tickets includes a unique game event. At least one of the plurality of trade tickets includes a game win event associated with the team associated with the broadcast sports game.

In the Office Action, the PTO relies on Lappington. Lappington is directed to an interactive television system where interactive information is inserted in vertical blanking intervals of a standard television signal or some other appropriate medium. Lappington, Abstract. In reference to FIG. 1, Lappington discloses that an insertion control 14 utilizes an insertion card 20 to insert interactive data onto a television signal 16. The insertion card 20 adds or encodes the interactive data to the VBI lines of television signal 16 and sends the encoded television signal 22 to a transmitter. The encoded television signal 22 can be sent from a satellite transmitter and received by a satellite receiver 26. Lappington, col. 8, ll. 4-61. FIG. 4 shows the hardware architecture for an insertion card 20, which consists of a video processing circuitry, a video signal processor, a control processor, hardware failure detection circuitry, and an IBM PC AT bus interface. Lappington, col. 15, ll. 44-48.

As such, the insertion card 20 of Lappington, relied upon by the PTO as a game card of a printable game set, is a hardware card including a variety of circuitries. Therefore, such an insertion card is not a game card of a printable game set. Furthermore, such an insertion card cannot be a game card of a printable game set provided in an electronic format for printing by a user. In addition, Lappington fails to teach or suggest a set of trade tickets and, in particular, fails to teach or suggest trade tickets identifying a game event. As such, Lappington fails to teach a printable game set and, in particular, fails to teach a printable game set that includes at least one game card and a set of trade tickets.

In contrast, claim 1 recites generating a printable game set and providing the printable game set in an electronic format configured for printing by a user. The printable game set includes at least one game card and a set of trade tickets. Claim 13 recites generating a game set and providing the game set in an electronic format configurable for printing by a user. The game

set includes a plurality of game cards and a plurality of trade tickets. As such, Lappington fails to teach each and every element of the claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 2-6, 10, 12-14, and 17-18 are not anticipated by Lappington. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection.

4. Claims 7-9, 11, 15-16 and 20-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lappington in view of Libby et al. (US 6,193,605; hereinafter "Libby"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1 and 13 have been described above for clarity. Claim 20 is directed to a method of providing interactive entertainment associated with a media event. The method includes accessing a game set provided in a printable electronic format. The game set includes a plurality of game cards and a set of trade tickets. Each game card of the plurality of game cards includes a distinct list of game events. Each trade ticket in the set of trade tickets identifies a game event. The method further includes printing the game set and distributing one game card of the plurality of game cards and a subset of trade tickets of the set of trade tickets to one of the plurality of players.

In an attempt to establish *prima facie* obviousness, the PTO again primarily relies on Lappington. As described above, Lappington discloses an insertion card having a hardware configuration and including a plurality of circuitries. Such an insertion card is clearly not in a printable electronic format. As such, such an insertion card cannot be included in a game set provided in a printable electronic format. Moreover, Lappington fails to teach or suggest a game set including a game card and a trade ticket, fails to teach or suggest game cards including a distinct list of game events, and fails to teach or suggest trade tickets identifying a game event. Nevertheless, the PTO turns to Libby.

Libby is directed to a computerized lottery or wagering system that permits players to select game parameters from remote locations, transfer the selected game parameters to a game generator, and broadcast the lottery game on television for public viewing. Libby, Abstract. At col. 6, ll. 17-27, Libby discloses that a ticket or receipt of the transaction is provided by a printer.

At col. 7, ll. 13-19, Libby discloses that if the reply is that the data received was invalid the user is notified by a display or printer. If the reply is that the data transfer is complete, the player selection data and associated ID and time tag data are printed on a printer to provide the player with a receipt for the transaction. Libby does not disclose printing a game set, the game set including a plurality of game cards and a set of trade tickets. Further, Libby fails to disclose distributing one game card of a plurality of game cards and a subset of trade tickets to one of a plurality of players. As such, Libby fails to overcome the deficiencies of Lappington. Moreover, Libby fails to teach or suggest many of the other elements of the dependent claims clearly not disclosed by Lappington.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claims 7-9, 11, 15-16 and 20-26 are patentable over Lappington in view of Libby. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the Applicants would be desirable for placing this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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